JUN 1 2 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Terry P. MAHONEY et al.

Title:

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROCESSING AN ELECTRONIC

VERSION OF A HARDCOPY OF A DOCUMENT

Appl. No.:

09/468,254

Filing Date:

December 20, 1999

Examiner:

M. Miller

Art Unit:

2623

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING CPA

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 RECEIVED

JUN 1 7 2003

Sir:

Technology Center 2600

Prior to further examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims by replacing the indicated claims with the following clean versions. (See <u>Attachment A</u> for the marked up versions of the amended claims.)

(Twice Amended) A method of processing an electronic document corresponding to a hardcopy of the document, comprising the steps of:

creating and storing the electronic document;

placing a mark on the hardcopy corresponding to the stored electronic document, the mark containing identification information and processing information of the electronic document;

viewing the hardcopy by an image capture device to capture an image of the hardcopy document, wherein the image capture device is activated by waving a copy of the hardcopy document in front of the image capture device;